

16 KAR 5:030. Proficiency evaluation.

RELATES TO: KRS 161.020, 161.030

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: KRS 161.030

NECESSITY, FUNCTION, AND CONFORMITY: KRS 161.020, and 161.030 require that educators and other professional school personnel hold certificates of legal qualifications for their respective positions to be issued upon completion of programs of preparation. The traditional means of recognizing competency and proficiency for educator preparation is by earning academic credits. This administrative regulation provides an alternate means for recognizing competency and proficiency other than academic credit.

Section 1. Definitions. (1) "Approved program of preparation" means a program approved by the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) pursuant to 16 KAR 5:010 for a specific certification.

(2) "Comparable experience" means professional activity of equivalent quality requiring similar skills and knowledge.

(3) "Educator preparation provider" or "EPP" means a Kentucky-based college or university that offers educator preparation programs approved by the Board.

(4) "Proficiency evaluation" means the process by which an EPP may evaluate an educator seeking initial certification, another certification area, endorsement, or extension to recognize competency and proficiency.

Section 2. (1) An EPP shall be required to meet the following requirements before conducting proficiency evaluations:

(a) The EPP shall provide notice to the EPSB of its intent to conduct proficiency evaluations; and

(b) The EPP shall provide to the EPSB a plan for approval that sets forth the process by which the EPP shall conduct proficiency evaluations. The evaluation must assess a candidate's attainment of the applicable educational program standards.

(2) Failure to satisfy the requirements of this administrative regulation may result in the following action:

(a) The board may take action against the EPP's state accreditation; and

(b) The board may notify the Council of Postsecondary Education that the EPP has not met the requirements of KRS 164.097.

Section 3. Educators holding a valid Kentucky certificate seeking another certification area shall not be required to meet the admission requirements established in 16 KAR 5:020(1)(2)(b) and 16 KAR 5:020(1)(3)(b).

Section 4. The EPP shall only conduct proficiency evaluations for the EPP's existing programs approved by the board.

Section 5. When conducting a proficiency evaluation, the EPP may assess proficiency by considering any of the following factors:

(1) Previous education;

(2) Comparable experience; or

(3) Proficiency assessment at a level comparable to the usual requirements in the content area in which the educator is seeking certification.

Section 6. Initial Certification for Teacher Candidates. (1) An EPP may evaluate and accept competency for initial teacher certification purposes for any of the specific curriculum requirements when the teacher candidate can demonstrate proficiency by reason of previous education, unusual experience, or proficiency examination at a level comparable to the usual requirements in that curriculum area.

(2) The teacher candidate shall be required to:

(a) Satisfy the applicable admission requirements established in 16 KAR 5:020; and

(b) Meet the internship requirements established in 16 KAR 7:010 or 16 KAR 7:020.

(3) The EPP shall be required to report to EPSB pursuant to the requirements of 16 KAR 5:020 the candidates for whom the EPP completed a proficiency evaluation.

(4) The teacher candidate may demonstrate proficiency of the requirements established in 16 KAR 5:040 by reason of previous experience.

(5) The EPP shall be responsible for recommending that the EPSB issue certification.

(6) The EPSB shall issue certificate for teacher candidates pursuant to the requirements of 16 KAR 2:010.

Section 7. Additional Certification for Certified Educators. (1) After completing the proficiency evaluation, the EPP shall:

(a) Prepare an educator learning plan (ELP) for the certified educator outlining all necessary requirements to complete a program for additional content area or grade range along with a timeline for completion not to exceed two (2) years; and

(b) Recommend that the EPSB issue a one (1) year provisional certificate pursuant to 16 KAR 2:010.

(2) Upon successful completion of the ELP, the EPP shall recommend that the EPSB issue the educator a professional certificate, a certificate endorsement, or a certificate extension in the additional area pursuant to 16 KAR 2:010, Section 4.

Section 8. (1) The EPSB shall issue a certificate endorsement or extension pursuant to the process established in 16 KAR 2:010, Section 3, upon receipt of the educator's request for certification; proof that the educator has successfully achieved a passing score on any required assessment; and recommendation of the EPP.

(2) The EPSB shall not require an educator to complete Kentucky Teacher Internship Program (KTIP) for the issuance of an endorsement or an extension if the certified educator previously completed KTIP for initial certification.

Section 9. Recency. (1) The certified educator seeking another certification shall submit a request for certification no later than five (5) years after successfully completing all requirements set forth in the ELP; or

(2) Within twelve (12) months after the EPP discontinues the educator preparation program identified in the ELP, whichever occurs first. (SBE 42.005(8), .022(2); 1 Ky.R. 494; eff. 3-12-75; Am. 3 Ky.R. 243; eff. 11-3-76; 10 Ky.R. 1098; eff. 5-1-84; recodified from 704 KAR 20:030, 7-2-2002; 44 Ky.R. 1589, 2089; 45 Ky.R. 326; eff. 8-31-2018)